



NOAA - National Weather Service

Tampa Bay Area

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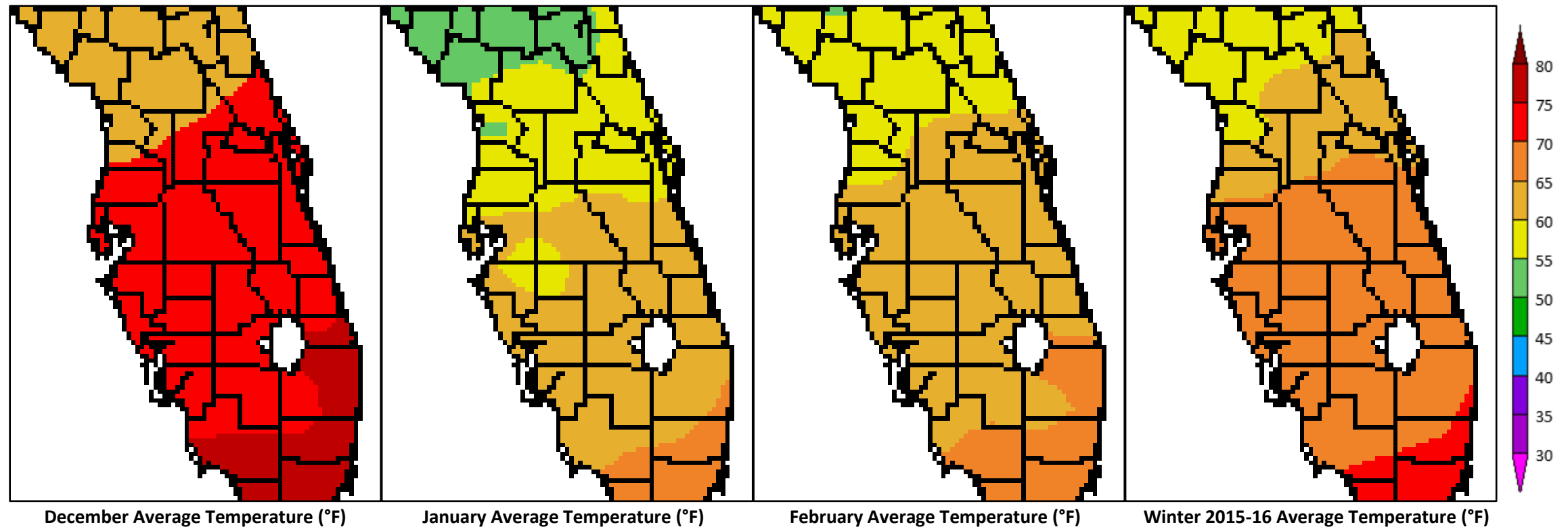
West Central and Southwest Florida Climate Summary for Winter 2015-16

Meteorological winter 2015-16 (December/January/February) started out very warm with December being one of the warmest on record across most of West Central and Southwest Florida. This warm pattern changed a couple of days into the new year with generally near to below normal temperatures occurring for much of January and February. For the winter (December/January/February) the average temperatures across the region ended up about 1 to 4 degrees above normal.

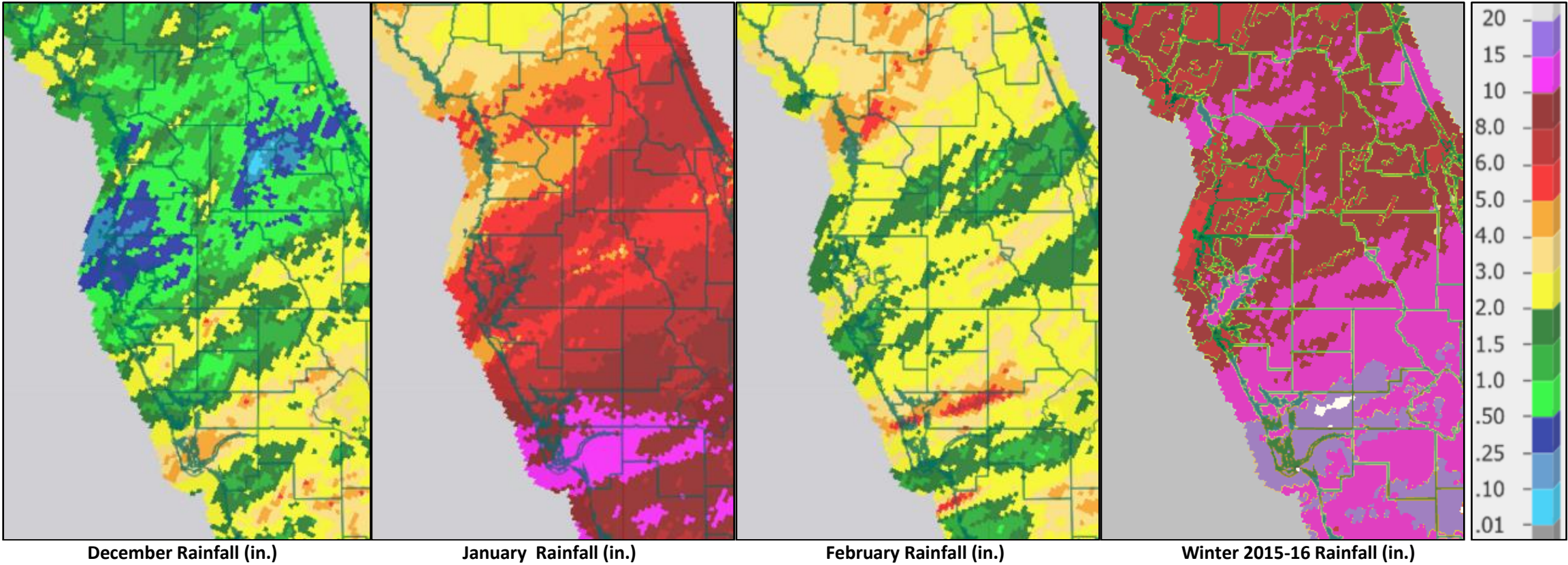
Rainfall was rather light across much of the region in December with the exception being across portions of Southwest Florida into the southern interior. During January the storm track shifted some and we ended up with a rather wet month area-wide with portions of Southwest Florida into the southern interior seeing their wettest January on record. For February we continued to see decent rainfall with the cold fronts, but many areas were still near to slightly below normal for the month while small areas in the Nature Coast and Southwest Florida were above normal. For the entire winter rainfall amounts of 15 to 20 inches, or about 6 to 13 inches above normal, were common across Southwest Florida and the southern interior, while portions of the Nature Coast saw 6 to 8 inches of rain, which was only about 1 to 2 inches below normal.

On the following pages are graphics of the monthly and winter average temperatures and rainfall.

You can see how much warmer December was compared to January and February. For December temperatures averaged in the upper 60s to mid 70s across the region, then fell into the mid 50s to mid 60s for January and February. For the entire winter the average temperatures ranged from the upper 50s across Levy and Citrus counties to the lower and mid 60s elsewhere.



In the below images you can see how much wetter January was compared to December and February, with record rainfall occurring over portions of Southwest Florida. Rainfall amounts for the winter ranged from 6 to 8 inches over portions of the Nature Coast to around 20 inches in some parts of Charlotte County, with widespread 15 to 20 inch amounts over much of Southwest Florida.



On the following pages are tables with the daily, monthly, and seasonal stats for some locations across the area.

* **Brooksville Area:** (Records began in January 1892)

Winter 2015-2016 Temperature				
Month	Average	Normal	DFN	Ranking
Dec	70.5	59.3	+11.2	Warmest
Jan	57.0	56.7	+0.3	Tied 73rd Warmest / 38th Coolest
Feb	58.8	59.5	-0.7	Tied 79th Warmest / 26th Coolest
Winter	62.2	58.5	+3.7	31st Warmest / 70th Coolest

Warmest Winter	68.2 in 1931-1932
Coolest Winter	53.8 in 1901-1902

Temperature Extremes	Winter		All Winters	
	2015-16	Date	All-Time	Date
Highest Daily	88	02/03	90	02/26/1962 02/27/1929 02/26/1929 02/23/1909
Lowest Daily	28	01/20	13	01/21/1985

Temperature Number of Days	Winter 2015-16	Normal	DFN
Max >= 80	26	18	8
Max <= 60	7	10	-3
Min >= 70	3	0	3
Min <= 32	6	13	-7

Winter 2015-2016 Rainfall				
Month	Total	Normal	DFN	Ranking
Dec	0.04	2.39	-2.35	2nd Driest
Jan	4.44	3.22	+1.22	21st Wettest
Feb	2.50	3.37	-0.87	65th Wettest / 53rd Driest
Winter	6.98	8.98	-2.00	67th Wettest / 48th Driest

Wettest Winter	17.83 in 1898-1899
Driest Winter	1.09 in 1910-1911

Rainfall Extremes	Winter		All Winters	
	2015-16	Date	All-Time	Date
Greatest Daily	1.63	01/27	5.89	02/24/2004

Rainfall Number of Days	Winter 2015-16	Normal	DFN
>= 0.01	19	21	-2
>= 0.10	11	12	-1
>= 0.50	5	6	-1
>= 1.00	3	3	0

* **Tampa Area:** (Records began in April 1890)

Winter 2015-2016 Temperature				
Month	Average	Normal	DFN	Ranking
Dec	73.4	63.1	+10.3	Warmest
Jan	60.2	60.8	-0.6	Tied 64th Warmest / 62nd Coolest
Feb	62.1	63.4	-1.3	66th Warmest / 61st Coolest
Winter	65.3	62.4	+2.9	15th Warmest

Warmest Winter	70.3 in 1931-1932
Coolest Winter	55.2 in 1957-1958

Temperature Extremes	Winter		All Winters	
	2015-16	Date	All-Time	Date
Highest Daily	86	12/26 12/25	88	02/26/1971
Lowest Daily	37	01/24	18	12/13/1962

Temperature Number of Days	Winter 2015-16	Normal	DFN
Max >= 80	25	12	13
Max <= 60	7	8	-1
Min >= 70	15	1	14
Min <= 32	0	1	-1

Winter 2015-2016 Rainfall				
Month	Total	Normal	DFN	Ranking
Dec	0.49	2.47	-1.98	Tied 18th Driest
Jan	6.18	2.23	+3.95	6th Wettest
Feb	2.53	2.81	-0.28	59th Wettest / 68th Driest
Winter	9.20	7.51	+1.69	35th Wettest / 92nd Driest

Wettest Winter	31.03 in 1997-1998
Driest Winter	0.51 in 1949-1950

Rainfall Extremes	Winter		All Winters	
	2015-16	Date	All-Time	Date
Greatest Daily	1.51	01/27	8.29	02/03/2006

Rainfall Number of Days	Winter 2015-16	Normal	DFN
>= 0.01	23	19	4
>= 0.10	15	11	4
>= 0.50	9	5	4
>= 1.00	4	2	2

* **St Petersburg:** (Records began in August 1914)

Winter 2015-2016 Temperature				
Month	Average	Normal	DFN	Ranking
Dec	70.6	64.1	+6.5	3rd Warmest
Jan	61.0	61.6	-0.6	Tied 65th Warmest / 36th Coolest
Feb	62.7	64.1	-1.4	Tied 64th Warmest / 36th Coolest
Winter	64.8	63.3	+1.5	Tied 34th Warmest / 65th Coolest

Warmest Winter	72.1 in 1931-1932
Coolest Winter	56.9 in 1957-1958

Temperature Extremes	Winter		All Winters	
	2015-16	Date	All-Time	Date
Highest Daily	85	12/30	90	02/22/1975
Lowest Daily	43	01/24	22	12/13/1962

Temperature Number of Days	Winter 2015-16	Normal	DFN
Max \geq 80	6	7	-1
Max \leq 60	9	7	2
Min \geq 70	5	1	4
Min \leq 32	0	0	0

Winter 2015-2016 Rainfall				
Month	Total	Normal	DFN	Ranking
Dec	0.38	2.75	-2.37	5th Driest
Jan	7.13	2.57	+4.56	3rd Wettest
Feb	1.80	2.72	-0.92	61st Wettest / 40th Driest
Winter	9.31	8.04	+1.27	28th Wettest / 73rd Driest

Wettest Winter	32.36 in 1997-1998
Driest Winter	0.59 in 1949-1950

Rainfall Extremes	Winter		All Winters	
	2015-16	Date	All-Time	Date
Greatest Daily	2.32	01/17	4.61	02/10/1937

Rainfall Number of Days	Winter 2015-16	Normal	DFN
\geq 0.01	20	18	2
\geq 0.10	13	12	1
\geq 0.50	6	5	1
\geq 1.00	4	2	2

* **Lakeland Area:** (Records began in January 1915)

Winter 2015-2016 Temperature				
Month	Average	Normal	DFN	Ranking
Dec	73.1	62.9	+10.2	Warmest
Jan	60.5	60.7	-0.2	63rd Warmest / 39th Coolest
Feb	62.3	63.3	-1.0	62nd Warmest / 38th Coolest
Winter	65.4	62.3	+3.1	15th Warmest

Warmest Winter	70.9 in 1931-1932
Coolest Winter	55.2 in 1957-1958

Temperature Extremes	Winter		All Winters	
	2015-16	Date	All-Time	Date
Highest Daily	87	12/30 12/29 12/17	90	02/20/1988
Lowest Daily	34	01/24	20	01/22/1985 01/21/1985 12/13/1962

Temperature Number of Days	Winter 2015-16	Normal	DFN
Max >= 80	32	16	16
Max <= 60	4	6	-2
Min >= 70	10	0	10
Min <= 32	0	2	-2

Winter 2015-2016 Rainfall				
Month	Total	Normal	DFN	Ranking
Dec	1.66	2.60	-0.94	50th Wettest / 45th Driest
Jan	6.77	2.64	+4.13	4th Wettest
Feb	2.07	3.00	-0.93	55th Wettest / 48th Driest
Winter	10.50	8.24	+2.26	14th Wettest

Wettest Winter	23.72 in 1997-1998
Driest Winter	1.49 in 1934-1935

Rainfall Extremes	Winter		All Winters	
	2015-16	Date	All-Time	Date
Greatest Daily	1.53	01/17	5.10	01/01/2003

Rainfall Number of Days	Winter 2015-16	Normal	DFN
>= 0.01	32	20	12
>= 0.10	18	12	6
>= 0.50	8	5	3
>= 1.00	2	3	-1

* **Sarasota-Bradenton Area:** (Records began in January 1911)

Winter 2015-2016 Temperature				
Month	Average	Normal	DFN	Ranking
Dec	72.8	63.5	+9.3	Warmest
Jan	60.3	61.4	-1.1	66th Warmest / 30th Coolest
Feb	61.6	63.4	-1.8	Tied 64th Warmest / 34th Coolest
Winter	65.0	62.7	+2.3	19th Warmest

Warmest Winter	70.9 in 1931-1932
Coolest Winter	55.2 in 1957-1958

Winter 2015-2016 Rainfall				
Month	Total	Normal	DFN	Ranking
Dec	1.29	2.53	-1.24	58th Wettest / 46th Driest
Jan	4.41	2.49	+1.92	Tied 14th Wettest
Feb	1.27	2.70	-1.43	71st Wettest / 36th Driest
Winter	6.97	7.72	-0.75	Tied 51st Wettest / 51st Driest

Wettest Winter	28.11 in 1997-1998
Driest Winter	0.14 in 1949-1950

Temperature Extremes	Winter		All Winters	
	2015-16	Date	All-Time	Date
Highest Daily	85	02/03 12/30 12/27 12/26 12/25 12/24 12/12	90	12/14/1971
Lowest Daily	34	01/25	20	12/18/1967 12/26/1983

Rainfall Extremes	Winter		All Winters	
	2015-16	Date	All-Time	Date
Greatest Daily	0.96	01/27	6.10	01/24/1998

Temperature Number of Days	Winter 2015-16	Normal	DFN
Max \geq 80	30	13	17
Max \leq 60	4	6	-2
Min \geq 70	6	1	5
Min \leq 32	0	1	-1

Rainfall Number of Days	Winter 2015-16	Normal	DFN
\geq 0.01	22	19	3
\geq 0.10	16	11	5
\geq 0.50	4	5	-1
\geq 1.00	0	2	-2

* **Archbold Bio Station:** (Records began in January 1969)

Winter 2015-2016 Temperature				
Month	Average	Normal	DFN	Ranking
Dec	73.4	62.6	+10.8	Warmest
Jan	60.6	60.0	+0.6	22nd Warmest / 27th Coolest
Feb	61.1	62.6	-1.5	Tied 29th Warmest / 18th Coolest
Winter	65.1	61.7	+3.4	4th Warmest

Warmest Winter	66.2 in 1971-1972
Coolest Winter	57.0 in 1980-1981

Temperature Extremes	Winter		All Winters	
	2015-16	Date	All-Time	Date
Highest Daily	89	12/30 12/03	92	02/28/2001
Lowest Daily	29	02/11	13	01/05/2001 01/12/1982

Temperature Number of Days	Winter 2015-16	Normal	DFN
Max \geq 80	38	28	10
Max \leq 60	1	4	-3
Min \geq 70	3	0	3
Min \leq 32	6	8	-2

Winter 2015-2016 Rainfall				
Month	Total	Normal	DFN	Ranking
Dec	3.04	1.92	1.12	8th Wettest
Jan	9.64	1.92	+7.72	Wettest
Feb	3.51	2.55	+0.96	7th Wettest
Winter	16.19	6.39	+9.80	2nd Wettest

Wettest Winter	21.53 in 1997-1998
Driest Winter	0.64 in 2000-2001

Rainfall Extremes	Winter		All Winters	
	2015-16	Date	All-Time	Date
Greatest Daily	2.14	12/04	4.29	02/03/1998

Rainfall Number of Days	Winter 2015-16	Normal	DFN
\geq 0.01	30	19	11
\geq 0.10	18	10	8
\geq 0.50	12	4	8
\geq 1.00	8	2	6

* **Punta Gorda Area:** (Records began in July 1914)

Winter 2015-2016 Temperature				
Month	Average	Normal	DFN	Ranking
Dec	73.3	65.4	+7.9	Warmest
Jan	62.4	63.2	-0.8	56th Warmest / 32nd Coolest
Feb	63.9	65.5	-1.6	58th Warmest / 37th Coolest
Winter	66.6	64.7	+1.9	Tied 18th Warmest

Warmest Winter	72.0 in 1948-1949
Coolest Winter	59.1 in 1977-1978

Temperature Extremes	Winter		All Winters	
	2015-16	Date	All-Time	Date
Highest Daily	89	12/02	90	02/25/1962
Lowest Daily	37	01/24	23	01/12/1982

Temperature Number of Days	Winter 2015-16	Normal	DFN
Max \geq 80	36	30	6
Max \leq 60	0	3	-3
Min \geq 70	5	1	4
Min \leq 32	0	2	-2

Winter 2015-2016 Rainfall				
Month	Total	Normal	DFN	Ranking
Dec	1.86	1.78	0.08	34th Wettest / 67th Driest
Jan	8.83	1.80	+7.03	Wettest
Feb	3.78	2.43	+1.35	Tied 13th Wettest
Winter	14.47	6.01	+8.46	4th Wettest

Wettest Winter	16.32 in 1935-1936
Driest Winter	0.40 in 2000-2001

Rainfall Extremes	Winter		All Winters	
	2015-16	Date	All-Time	Date
Greatest Daily	2.68	02/24	4.80	02/09/1936

Rainfall Number of Days	Winter 2015-16	Normal	DFN
\geq 0.01	20	15	5
\geq 0.10	14	10	4
\geq 0.50	9	4	5
\geq 1.00	5	2	3

* **Fort Myers Area:** (Records began in January 1902)

Winter 2015-2016 Temperature				
Month	Average	Normal	DFN	Ranking
Dec	73.6	66.5	+7.1	Warmest
Jan	62.9	64.2	-1.3	78th Warmest / 38th Coolest
Feb	64.1	66.6	-2.5	Tied 73rd Warmest / 40th Coolest
Winter	66.9	65.7	+1.2	Tied 28th Warmest / 86th Coolest

Warmest Winter	70.7 in 1931-1932
Coolest Winter	58.2 in 1957-1958

Temperature Extremes	Winter		All Winters	
	2015-16	Date	All-Time	Date
Highest Daily	87	12/26	92	02/25/1962
Lowest Daily	41	12/25 01/24	26	12/13/1962

Temperature Number of Days	Winter 2015-16	Normal	DFN
Max >= 80	31	32	-1
Max <= 60	0	2	-2
Min >= 70	6	1	5
Min <= 32	0	0	0

Winter 2015-2016 Rainfall				
Month	Total	Normal	DFN	Ranking
Dec	3.60	1.71	1.89	12th Wettest
Jan	12.98	1.94	+11.04	Wettest
Feb	2.13	2.15	-0.02	47th Wettest / 64th Driest
Winter	18.71	5.80	+12.91	Wettest

Wettest Winter	18.71 in 2015-2016	Previous Record 15.59 in 1982-1983
Driest Winter	0.45 in 2000-2001	

Rainfall Extremes	Winter		All Winters	
	2015-16	Date	All-Time	Date
Greatest Daily	3.29	01/27	5.06	02/20/1902

Rainfall Number of Days	Winter 2015-16	Normal	DFN
>= 0.01	25	15	10
>= 0.10	15	9	6
>= 0.50	13	4	9
>= 1.00	7	2	5